

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph 0005 with the following rewritten version:

[0005] A first aspect of the ~~The~~ invention is a video game program for causing the following functions to be implemented in a video game on a computer, the video game displaying a character on a monitor and allowing the operation of the character to be controlled.

Please replace paragraph 0014 with the following rewritten version:

[0014] In the video game program according to a second aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 2~~, the first running commentary function according to the video game program of the first aspect comprises a first terminology selecting function, a first selected terminology storing function, a first audio output function, and a first transmission function, ~~in the video game program recited in Claim 1~~. The first terminology selecting function selects running commentary terminology stored in the terminology storing function and used while the video game is in progress. The first selected terminology storing function stores the running commentary terminology selected by the first terminology selecting function. The first audio output function outputs as sound the running commentary terminology stored in the first selected terminology storing function. The first transmission function transmits the running commentary terminology from the first selected terminology storing function to the first audio output function.

Please replace paragraphs 0014 to 0018 with the following rewritten version:

[0016] In the video game program according to a third aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 3~~, the running commentary continuing function according to the video game program of the second aspect causes the continuation of the play-by-play or commentary of the first running commentary function, based on the running commentary terminology stored in the first selected terminology storing function of the first running commentary function, ~~in the video game program recited in Claim 2~~. In this case, if a specific event occurs while the game is in progress and the play-by-play or commentary is interrupted, the contents of the play-by-play or commentary of the first running commentary function at the interruption are retained in the first selected terminology storing function, and therefore the running commentary continuing function can cause the continuation of the play-by-play or commentary of the first running commentary function.

[0017] In the video game program according to a fourth aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 4~~, the details of the specific events according to the video game program of any one of the first to third aspects are distinguished and it is determined whether to interrupt the first running commentary function by the running commentary interrupting function, ~~in the video game program recited in any of Claims 1 to 3~~. In this case, the details of the specific event are distinguished by the running commentary interrupting function, and therefore, the play-by-play or commentary is interrupted or continued according to the details of the specific event. Accordingly, the running commentary interrupting function can be caused to execute a branching process, wherein the play-by-play or commentary is interrupted when the details of the specific event are important, and the play-by-play or commentary is continued when the details of the specific event are not important.

[0018] In the video game program according to a fifth aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 5~~, the second running commentary function according to the video game program of any one of the first to fourth aspects comprises a second terminology selecting function, a second selected terminology storing function, a second audio output function, and a second transmission function, ~~in the video game program recited in any one of Claims 1 to 4~~. The second terminology selecting function selects running commentary terminology stored in the terminology storing function and used while the video game is in progress. The second selected terminology storing function stores the running commentary terminology selected by the second terminology selecting function. The second audio output function outputs as sound the running commentary terminology stored in the second selected terminology storing function. The second transmission function transmits the running commentary terminology from the second selected terminology storing function to the second audio output function.

Please replace paragraphs 0020 to 0023 with the following rewritten version:

[0020] In the video game program according to a sixth aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 6~~, various phrases, according to the contents of the play-by-play or commentary, are formed with the running commentary terminology, in the first and second running commentary function according to the video game program of any one of the first to fifth aspects, ~~in the video game program recited in any one of Claims 1 to 5~~. These various phrases are collected as phrase groups. In this case, because the various phrases are collected as phrase groups according to the contents of the play-by-play or commentary, the contents of the play-by-play or commentary at the time of the interruption can be

recognized in phrase group units by first running commentary means, if a specific event occurs while the game is in progress and the play-by-play or commentary is interrupted. Thereby, when caused to return from the second running commentary function to the first running commentary function by the running commentary returning function, the phrases can be continued from any phrase in the interrupted phrase group.

[0021] In the video game program according to a seventh aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 7~~, attributes of the phrase group are established and, based on these attributes, it is determined whether the running commentary returning function is to be executed according to the video game program of the sixth aspect, in the video game program recited in Claim 6. In this case, by establishing attributes for the phrase groups, the running commentary returning function can cause the return of the play-by-play or commentary according to the attributes under various conditions.

[0022] The video game device according to an eighth aspect of the present invention Claim 8 is a device with which a character is displayed on a monitor and the operation of the character can be controlled, comprising: terminology storing means for storing running commentary terminology used while the video game is in progress; first running commentary means for performing play-by-play or commentary relating to the video game using the running commentary terminology; running commentary interrupting means for causing the interruption of the first running commentary means when a specific event has occurred while the video game is in progress; second running commentary means for performing play-by-play or commentary relating to the specific event when the running commentary interrupting means has been executed; running commentary returning means for causing the return from the second running commentary

means to the first running commentary means; and running commentary continuing means for continuing the play-by-play or commentary of the first running commentary means which was interrupted by the running commentary interrupting means when the running commentary returning means has been executed.

[0023] The video game method according to a ninth aspect of the present invention ~~Claim 9~~ is a method with which a character is displayed on a monitor and the operation of the character can be controlled, comprising: a terminology storing step for storing running commentary terminology used while the video game is in progress; a first running commentary step for performing play-by-play or commentary relating to the video game using the running commentary terminology; a running commentary interrupting step for causing the interruption of the first running commentary step when a specific event has occurred while the video game is in progress; a second running commentary step for performing play-by-play or commentary relating to the specific event when the running commentary interrupting step has been executed; a running commentary returning step for causing the return from the second running commentary step to the first running commentary step; and a running commentary continuing step for continuing the play-by-play or commentary of the first running commentary step which was interrupted by the running commentary interrupting step when the running commentary returning step was executed.

Please delete the paragraph titled DESCRIPTION OF THE REFERENCE NUMERALS which extends from page 7, line 1 until page 8, line 3.

New-(National Phase of PCT/JP2004/012974)
Preliminary Amendment

Please replace the heading at page 7, line 4 with the following rewritten version:

Preferred Embodiments Of The Invention ~~Best Mode For Carrying Out The~~
~~Invention~~

Please replace the sentence at page 21, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

What Is Claimed Is: ~~CLAIMS~~